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METRO LETTER CARRIER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF LONE STAR BRANCH #132, NALC

RITA WILDER, EDITOR

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

KIMETRA LEWIS



Practices Over Policies

Recently following the death of our brother Eugene Gates, Jr. postal management across the State of Texas were mandated to change the start times for letter carriers to 7:30 am by the influence from the media and Congress who advocated for the change. Our brother collapsed in the yard of his customers on what was one of the hottest days in history. The National Association of Letter

Carriers (NALC) immediately got involved and discovered that the Heat Illness Prevention Program (HIPP) training records reported by management in Brother Gates' HERO profile were falsified. The information entered in his HERO profile indicated that the training was conducted on January 25, 2023, yet according to Brother Gates' clock rings, he was non-scheduled on that day. An inquiry into the other carriers' training records at Lakewood Station revealed much of the same.

Over the years, postal management has incorporated postal practices over postal policies. Here is yet another example. According to Postal policy, the HIPP began in May of 2018, and is to be initiated during the period of April through October. Management was aware of their responsibility to provide letter carriers with the heat-related training which includes 15-minute HIPP Safety Talks, a 20-minute online course and a 35-minute curriculum-based course on Heat Stress Recognition & Prevention. Every carrier was to receive a safety card displaying the signs and symptoms of a heat-related illness. A similar card was to be placed in every postal vehicle. Posters were to be visibly posted in the office for everyone to see. Instead of complying with the policy,

management initiated a practice to give the appearance of compliance. Ask yourself, did you have the online and curriculum-based training on heat stress? Was management giving the safety talks on heat prior to the death of Eugene Gates? For most of you or all of you the answer is no.

The purpose of those training courses is to equip letter carriers with the essential knowledge to protect themselves in the extreme outdoor heat. The training record is confirmation to Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) that letter carriers have been trained to protect themselves. When this information is falsified, it places every letter carrier in danger. I have asked the stewards in every office to investigate the training records for the letter carriers within their respective offices. The stewards cannot get this accomplished without the help from you. We have allowed the Postal Service to operate on their made-up practices far too long. It took the death of Brother Gates to expose them to the public. Let's take matters further by exposing how they have manipulated the system by falsifying the training records of carriers throughout the district.

Follow these simple steps to provide your steward with your training records:

- Go to Liteblue login click the HERO login
- Click on Assigned Training (Located on the right)
- Click on Completed Training (Located on the left)
- Scroll to FY23 Heat Stress Recognition and Prevention (Or other training you are interested in seeing)
- Click the "View Completion" drop down arrow at far right.
- Choose View Training Details
- Scroll to the bottom of the page, click "Transcript History" drop down menu, this will show who entered the course completion information and the time and date of the action. You should print this screen for use in any grievance related to falsified training.
- Go back to the Profile page. You will see three dots on

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BRANCH 132 OFFICE

8451 Endicott
Dallas, Texas 75227
214-388-4349
Fax 214-388-4149
HOURS – 7:00 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.
MONDAY – FRIDAY

NALC Branch 132 Longview Office
201 East Methvin Street, Suite 201
Longview, Texas 75601
903-753-1255
Fax 903-757-6490

OFFICERS

President Emeritus – William P. York

Kimetra Lewis, President
214-779-4758

Sid Simmons, Executive Vice President
214-564-7128

Robert Hinson, Vice President
214-906-3201

Danny Hilliard, Recording Secretary
214-697-8704

Steve Ellenberg, Treasurer
Cell: 214-783-6212

Janine Singleton, Financial Secretary
469-438-0101

Earl Hibbs, Health Benefits, OWCP
903-456-9136

HOURS – 7:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.
THURSDAYS

Mike Bell, Sergeant-at-Arms
214-695-8157

Bobbie Taylor, Director, Retirees
469-765-5259

Rita Wilder, Editor
972-805-6798

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Javier Carrizales 214-478-5535
Eugene Johnson 214-938-4278
Helen Toliver 214-429-5847
Thomas Vines 214-240-9821
Chris Velasquez 214-274-6984



Stewards meet 7:00 PM the first Thursday of each month in the Branch Office.

Executive Board meets 7:00 PM last Monday of each month.

AFL-CIO Council meets third Thursday of each month.

Branch meeting 7:30 PM first Monday of each month unless deferred by membership vote.

Opinions expressed in this paper are those of the writers, and do not express the opinions of the editor or the Union. All articles for publication must be signed and received by the Editor no later than the 1st of each month. If you wish to run your personal or business ad, rates are available on request and must be received by the 10th of each month to be inserted in the next month's issue. The editor's email address is RitaWilder05@gmail.com

(PRESIDENT'S DESK cont. from pg.1)

the right-hand side. Click on the dots, then click print transcript. You should print this page for use in any grievance related to falsified training.

Let your willingness to work in a safe environment and not your death be the driving force for the Postal Service to follow the policies.

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Sid Simmons

After 20 years of service as an officer of NALC Lone Star Branch 132, Steve Ellenberg is retiring as Treasurer. Steve and Mary Ellen have decided to devote more time to traveling around the country, as well as spending much more time with their kids and grandkids. Steve has had a long and successful career as a letter carrier and a union leader.

Steve Ellenberg began his career as a PTF at Spring Valley Station in 1982. After only a year, he left Dallas city and transferred to Lewisville MPO. Steve likes to tell the story, that on his first day in Lewisville, he heard the postmaster telling me to get off the clock.

For those of you who don't know, I started out as a steward in Lewisville in 1983. After I started working for the National Business Agent in the early 90's, Steve took over the position of Chief Steward in Lewisville and continued in that capacity until he retired from the postal service in 2014. During those twenty plus years, Steve also held two other positions in the branch, as well as assignments at the regional level. Prior to serving as Treasurer, Steve was also a Trustee and Sergeant-at-Arms. He also served as the lead full-time NALC representative on more than one joint route inspection process. In my opinion, no one knew more about route inspections and adjustments than he did. Steve was also trained at the NALC headquarters level to serve as a back-up at Step B.

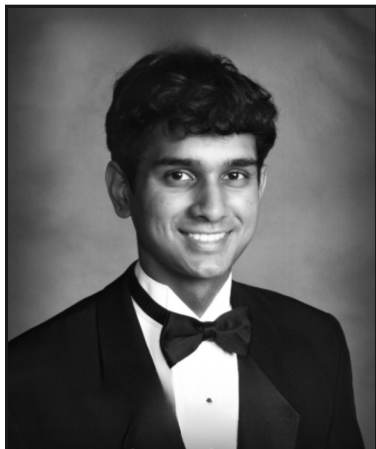
Steve is retiring with a year left on his term, which will require the branch president to select his successor for the remaining year of his term. Without question, it will be hard to fill his shoes.

On a personal note, I wish my good friend many more years of health and prosperity. Lord knows he has earned it!

NEW MEMBERS

Travon Crenshaw	Olivia Pletz	Carson Fernandez
Tre Lee	Kris Hodge	Cardayon Nimer
Ben Rivas	Michelle Ellis	Travosky Kiel
Elias Livarot	Virginia Cram	Jessica Nelson
Arrie Fraierson	Rodney Buckley	Carey Harris
Reginald Jackson	Ronaldo Rodriguez	April Smith
Heather Trammell	Shaunti Best	Jorge Alcantar
Tobieus Collins	Kaydiann Evans	Denzel Coleman
Marcus Fuller	Ricky Lock	Surinder Singh
Rachel Perez	Kierra Young	Roger Vazquez
Steven Santus	Jesus Vazquez-Delgado	Kevin Knight
Donald Belt	Corina Andrade	Jessie Soliz
Lakia Johnson	Joshua Fowler	Brittney Wheeler
Xavier Johnson	Joshua Adams	Jamar Johnson
Tony Armstrong	Chynna Savage	Tybrecia Clark
Terrance Gale	Kiante Davis	Kimberly Parker
Marquis Jordan	Calderon Jorge Galvan	Ethan Scoggins
	Sequille Franklin	

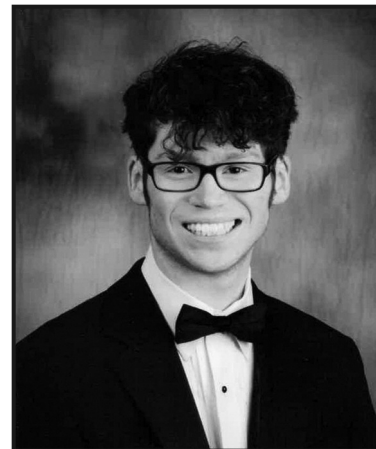
SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



MATHEW BIJI
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - DALLAS
SON OF BIJI BABY
CARROLLTON ROSEMEADE STATION



SKYLAR CAHOONE
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS
GRANDDAUGHTER OF MARK CAHOONE
FLOWER MOUND STATION



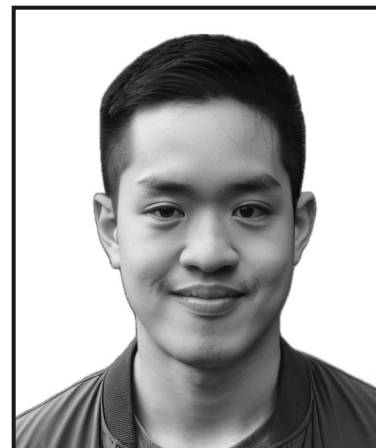
NICHOLAS GLADDEN
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - TYLER
SON OF JOHN DANIEL GLADDEN
GREENVILLE MPO



KIARA JOHNSON
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS
DAUGHTER OF KEITH JOHNSON
CORSICANA MPO



MACKENZIE MURPHY
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
DAUGHTER OF JOSEPH MURPHY
ADDISON MPO



JOHN TRUONG
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS
SON OF DUY "DT" TRUONG
CARROLLTON ROSEMEADE STATION

DELEGATE NOMINATION FORM

I desire to place my name in nomination as a delegate to the 2024 73rd National Convention in Boston, Massachusetts.

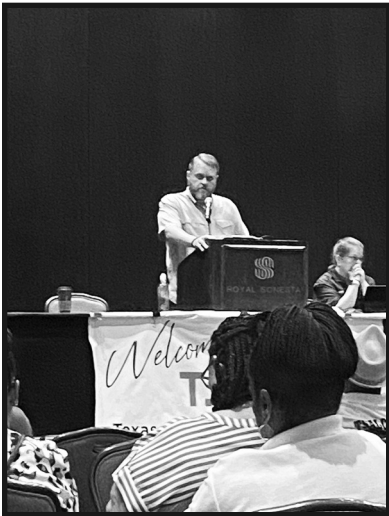
I affirm that I have not served or applied for a supervisory position with the United States Postal Service in the last 24 months.

PRINTED NAME: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

This form must be received by the Union Hall no later than October 7, 2023. Confirmation of receipt will be provided by the Recording Secretary. Please notify the branch office if you do not receive proof of submission.

TSALC 111TH BIENNIAL STATE CONVENTION



NALC National President
Brian Renfroe



Welcome from TSALC
111th Biennial
State Convention



Houston Mayor
Sylvester Turner



TSALC Emblem



NALC Branch 283
Hosted the Convention



NBA Shawn Boyd addressing
Convention Delegates




President Lewis speaking about
Brother Eugene Gates, Jr.

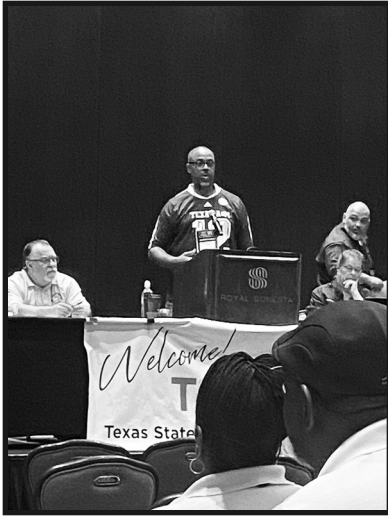



President Lewis receiving an
award for Best Editorial & Best
News Article

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



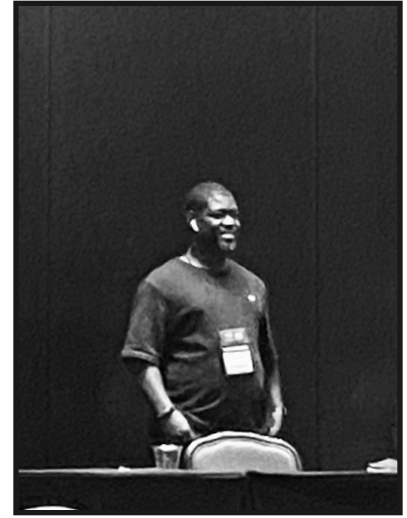
**Total COLA for this Contract
to date - \$ 6,698**



**Darryl Targton -
Chairman of the
Combination Committee**



**LaShawn Silas -
Member of the
Combination Committee**



**Twasky Smith -
Member of the Mileage &
Per Diem Committee**



Veterans' Breakfast



**Mike Bell, winner of a portrait
of Luka Doncic.**





JANINE SINGLETON
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

JUNE 2023

National Dues	\$77,603.02
OWCP Dues	
Annuity Withholding	561.70
Active Dues	0.00
MBA Rebate	0.00
TSALC Rebate	
HB Rebate	0.00
Deposit Dividends	
TOTAL \$	\$78,164.72

JULY 2023

National Dues	\$115,429.26
OWCP Dues	250.00
Active Dues	205.68
Lost Time Reimbursement	1,415.36
MBA Rebate	0.00
TSALC Rebate	0.00
HB Rebate	0.00
Deposit Dividends	
TOTAL \$	\$117,300.30

TREASURER REPORT

JULY 2023

General Fund	\$250,684.36
Business Savings	25.00
Money Market	515,452.99
Stewards Fund	122,883.57
Convention Fund	40,000.00
CPA/Legal Fund	8,300.00
Building Fund	9,694.32
Education Fund	21,470.93
Money Market	313,104.17
MDA Fund	264.81
CD 18 Month	107,943.76
CD 18 Month	106,611.00
CD 12 Month	105,480.69
TOTAL \$	\$1,086,462.61

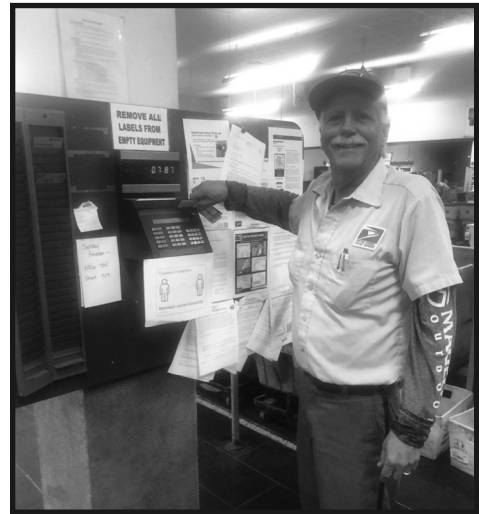
AUGUST 2023

General Fund	\$281,688.27
Business Savings	25.00
Money Market	516,748.82
Stewards Fund	121,312.56
Convention Fund	40,000.00
CPA/Legal Fund	8,300.00
Building Fund	9,694.32
Education Fund	21,070.93
Money Market	316,371.01
MDA Fund	412.84
CD 18 Month	108,007.95
CD 18 Month	106,816.73
CD 12 Month	105,680.65
TOTAL \$	\$1,119,380.26

SICK & WELFARE REPORT

Caesar Clark – Ike Lewis; Reso Washington.
 Grand Prairie (MPO) – Michael Mathis.
 Highland Hills – Alfonso Roberson.
 Longview (Northwest) – Scott Eades.
 Parkdale – LocQuennetta McCoo.
 Waxahachie – Donovan Russell; Ronald Sutton.
 Retirees – Frank Brimm had heart surgery; Brenda Hammond passed away; Milton Cobb’s wife passed away; Peggy J. Neil passed away
 Step B Team - Tyler, TX – Laura Marglaris retired.
 (PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT ALL SICK & WELFARE ARE REPORTED TO BROTHER ROBERT HINSON)

LAST PUNCH BUNCH



DOUG WILSON
SHERMAN – 24 YEARS



MEMBER ADDIE ROBLOW
CELEBRATING 70 YEARS
OF LIFE

JUNE 2023 BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

- A quorum of members of Lone Star Branch 132 met on June 6, 2023.
 - Invocation by Brother Thomas Vines. President Lewis led the Pledge.
 - Resolution of Sympathy Sister Peggy J. Neil.
 - There were no Executive Board Recommendations.
 - Proposed By-Law changes first read 4-4-2022. The proposed by-laws were posted in the newsletter. They were read to the assembled membership and discussed.
 - Proposed By-Law change to Art. VI Officers and Bonds. The vote was 46 for the change and 76 against. (Proposed by-law change failed).
 - Proposed By-Law change to Art. VII Expenses and Duties of Officers. The vote was 54 for the change and 64 against. (Proposed by-law change failed).
 - Awards were given to the top three Dallas City stations and the top three Associate Offices for the highest total pounds collected for the food drive. 1st place city station was Joe Pool with 12,940 lbs., 2nd place was Robert E. Price with 8,600 lbs., and 3rd place was Northaven with 7,150 lbs.
 - The A/O stations were 1st place Grand Prairie with 19,282 lbs., 2nd place Lewisville MPO with 13,782 lbs., and Marshall with 12,179 lbs. The district total was 591,000 lbs.
 - The branch financial reports will be posted in the Metro Letter Carrier.

Respectfully submitted

Danny Hillard, Recording Secretary

JULY 2023 BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the July Branch Meeting

- A quorum of members of Lone Star Branch 132 met on July 3, 2023.
 - Invocation by Brother Thomas Vines. President Lewis led the Pledge.
 - Resolutions of Sympathy: Brother Eugene Gates, Jr.
 - President Lewis read same resolution that was read at Brother Gates' service July 1, 2023.
 - Executive Board recommendation was that the branch purchase a projector and screen for the meeting room to use for training \$3,020.00. (Recommendation passed)
 - The branch received a thank you letter from NALC for the donation of \$5000.00 to the Disaster Relief Fund.
 - Scholarship awards from Branch 132 – Mackenzie Murphy, Mathew Biji, Skylar Cahoon, John Troung and Nicholas Gladden and from Auxiliary 28 Kiara Johnson.
 - A motion was made and seconded to add Eugene Gates Jr.'s name to the list of branch scholarships. (The motion passed).
 - The merger vote for Denton Branch 1367 will take place at the next branch meeting on August 7, 2023.
 - Honorary Member Gary Graham is in the hospital.
 - The membership took up a donation of \$3000.00 for the family of Brother Gates.
 - The branch financial reports will be posted in the Metro Letter Carrier.
 - Delegate meeting will be held after adjournment.

Respectfully submitted

Danny Hillard, Recording Secretary

LONE STAR BRANCH 132, NALC
8451 Endicott
Dallas, Texas 75227

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The branch meetings and steward training are being held at the union hall and being simultaneously broadcast over Zoom. Beginning in September for stewards to receive compensation for attendance at the monthly branch and steward meetings, the steward will be required to attend the meetings in person if you live or work within a 50-mile radius of the union Hall. Keep up with the latest information on the branch's Facebook page at "***Lone Star Branch 132 of the National Association of Letter Carriers***" or check the website at: "***nalclonestarbranch132.org***".

September 4 – Postal Designated Holiday

September 7 – 7:00 pm - Steward training – Union Hall

September 11- 7:30 pm – Monthly Branch meeting – Union Hall (Eating Meeting)

September 21 – 1:00 pm – Retirees' Luncheon – Golden Corral Restaurant

September 25 – 7:00 pm – Executive Board Meeting (Members may address the board by making an appointment.)

October 2 – 7:30 pm – Monthly Branch meeting – Union Hall

October 5 – 7:00 pm - Steward Training – Union Hall

October 7-9 – National Business Agent Shawn Boyd – Region 10 Annual Training

October 9 – Columbus Day Postal Designated Holiday

October 30 – 7:00 pm – Executive Board Meeting (Members may address the board by making an appointment.)

November 2 – 7:00 pm - Steward training – Union Hall

November 6 – 7:30 pm – Monthly Branch meeting – Union Hall

November 11 – Veterans Day Postal Designated Holiday

November 23 – Thanksgiving Day Postal Designated Holiday

November 27 – 7:00 pm – Executive Board Meeting (Members may address the board by making an appointment.)